Proposals made by India in G-15 Summit at Cairo

*40. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI S.M. KRISHNA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the meeting of Group of 15 developing countries (G-15) Summit held recently in Cairo which aimed at serious official-level interaction between the rich nations' club of G-8 and the middle income nations of G-15.

(b) if so, what proposals were put forward by India before G-15 Summit particularly for a common stand on cross border terrorism and a united stand by the developing countries on WTO issues; and

(c) what are the details of discussion held and results achieved particularly in response to India's suggestions given at Cairo Summit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Vice-President of India led the Indian delegation at the Summit which was preceded by meetings of Trade Ministers and Foreign Ministers on 8th and 9th May, 1998 and of Senior Officials on 7th May, 1998.

(b) On cross-border terrorism, India has called upon G-15 to work together to mobilies international cooperation and practical global action to defeat the designs of international terrorism. On WTO issues, India emphasised that the pursult of liberalisation which has become WTO's reason to exist, was not an end in itself and must meet the core objectives of rapid development, welfare gains and best returns for the extant and potential resources of developing countries. Towards this end, India submitted proposals outlining developing countries' concerns and possible ways of ensuring special and differential treatment to developing countries in all aspects of the WTO agenda nd its implementation. India has offered to host a G-15 inter-governmental meeting on this later this year. India also took up the issue of fair reward for the biogenetic resources of developing countries.

(c) The Eighth Summit focussed on two major themes, viz, financial crisis in East and South East Asia and Multilateral Trading System including the WTO Ministerial Conference at Geneva. The Summit examined the different perspectives and called for comprehensive and urgent action in preventing the spread of the financial turmoil in East and South East Asia. On the issue of the multilateral trading system, the Summit focussed on developing country positions on various matters that are likely to be taken up at the Geneva meeting as well as a positive agenda for the developing countries. The Summit called upon developed country partners to take appropriate measures for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of the biogenetic resources of developing countries and develop measures to implement their rights. The Summit strongly condemned all kinds of terrorism, their perpetrators and all those who support them under whatever guise and called for enhanced international cooperation to prevent and combat this menace.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Outlay for Fishermens Welfare

128. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total outlay for fishermen's welfare in 1997-98;

(b) what was the State-wise allocation for this scheme; and

(c) what was the specific fund spent on model village for fishermen in 1997-98.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) An outlay of Rs. 1430 lakhs was approved for the Centrally Sponsored National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme during 1997-98.

(b) State-wise allocations are not made for this scheme and the amount to be released to any State Government is determined mainly on the basis of availability of funds in the State budget and unspent balance available with the State Government out of releases made in the preceding financial year(s).

(c) The construction of houses, which is undertaken under the Development of Model Fishermen Villages Component of this Scheme, normally spills over to more than one financial year. The Central assistance is, therefore, also released in more than one financial year. Against an outlay of Rs. 400 lakhs earmarked for this component during 1997-98, a sum of Rs. 5,42,87,999 was actually released to various States/Union Territories as per details given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

State-wise Central assistance released during 1997-98 under Development of Model Fishermen villages Component of the National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of houses tubewells and community halls sanctioned	Amount released as Central share of assistance	Remarks
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1468 houses	1,02,20000	———
2.	Gujarat	136 houses, 3 tubewells and 1 community hall.	19,55,000	———
3.	Maharashtra	———	23,42,500	Towards committed inability pertaining to the year 1995-96.
4.	Uttar Pradesh	699 houses and 35 tube wells	72,52,500	———
5.	Karnataka	650 Houses	1,47,39,000	including Rs. 62,39,000 towards committed liability pertaining to the years 1995-96 & 1996-97.
6.	West Bengal	586 houses 28 tubewells and 6 community halls	36,00,000	———
7.	Tripura	60 houses and 3 tubewells	10,72,500	———
8.	Pondicherry	———	26,85,194	Towards committed liability pertaining to the year 1996-97.
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	200 houses	15,00,000	———
10.	Tamil Nadu	300 houses, 15 tubewells and 4 community halls	40,00,000	———

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of houses tubewells and community halls sanctioned	Amount released as Central share of assistance	Remarks
11.	Bihar	200 houses and 10 tubewells	5,00,000	———
12.	Kerala	300 houses	44,21,305	———
	TOTAL :	4561 houses, 91 tubewells and 14 community halls.	5,42,87,999	

Status of National Seeds Corporation

129. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the National Seeds Corporation (NSC);

(b) the annual revenues for the last three years;

(c) whether there has been a reduction in activities of NSC in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the steps proposed to provide high-quality seeds to the farmers of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) a statement is annexed (*See* below).

(b) The annual revenue of NSC for last 3 years was as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Amount
1995-96	59.28
1996-97	54.71
1997-98	61.32 (Provisional)

(c) No, Sir. Andhra Pradesh is main producing centre for Sorghum, Bajra, Paddy, Moong, Urid, Sunflower, Groundnut, Jute and Vegetable corps. Recently, Cotton and Soyabean crops have also been introduced. The procurement of seed in Andhra Pradesh has been around 47,000 quintals during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97. During the current year (1998-99), it is proposed to procure 67000 quintals of seeds. In the year 1997-98, due to exceptionally higher production of paddy the total procurement had gone upto about 73000 quintals.

(d) The high quality seeds produced by NSC are distributed to the farmers through NSC's own sale counters and dealers' net work. Number of dealers in the State of Andhra Pradesh during last one year has increased from 150 to 173 covering almost the entire state. NSC has also opened a seed production unit-cum-sale counter at Nandyal to serve the farmers of the area.

Statement

National Seeds Corporation (NSC) a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, was established in the year 1963 under the Companies Act, 1956. The objectives for which the Corporation was established were to produce and distribute the seeds of high quality to the farmers and also to bring about awareness among the farming community towards utilisation of high quality seeds for ensuring better yields. It undertakes the production of breeder seed on its own farms and foundation and certified seeds through contract growers,